



Attendance Awareness All Year Long: Inspiring and Sustaining Progress





Welcome



Samantha Wigand

Director, Childhood Success
Global Impact, Strategy and
Innovation

United Way Worldwide





2016 Convening Partners





2016 Campaign Goals

- **Expand the public's awareness** of the importance of attendance particularly for our most vulnerable children with special attention to addressing barriers related physical and behavioral health;
- **Use data** to drive and take action; and
- **Activate a wide array of stakeholders** -- educators and likely and unlikely public agencies and community allies



What's New in 2016

- **Greater emphasis on strategic messaging throughout the year** with September as a launch activity.
- **Leveraging Every Student, Every Day Initiative** (including national success mentor initiative, June Summit, OCR data release)
- New momentum created by inclusion of chronic absence in **ESSA**
- Even greater emphasis on the chronic absence as a **barrier to equal opportunity to learn**, especially for our most vulnerable students.



Attendance Works



Cecelia Leong

Associate Director for Programs
Attendance Works



Hedy Chang

Executive Director
Attendance Works

**& Members of the
Attendance Works Team**



2016 By the Numbers

- **431** communities in **47** states and **D.C.** pinned on the **2016 Attendance Action Map**
- **63** national partners
- **203,294** website page views in **September**
- **7,580** listserv subscribers
- **1,571** media hits
- **7,458** tweets using **#schooleveryday** creating **15.8** million impressions



Superintendent's Call to Action

**500
Superintendents**

Own the issue

**Mobilize the
Community**

**Drive with
Data**

**To sign-up for the Call to Action, or to learn more, please visit:
www.attendanceworks.org/superintendents-call-to-action**



State with the Most Pins on the 2016 Action Map

- California with **69** pins topped the list!
- Alabama was second with **46** pins. Largest increase in participating communities from 2015 with 32 additional communities



<http://awareness.attendanceworks.org/aam-map-form-2016/>



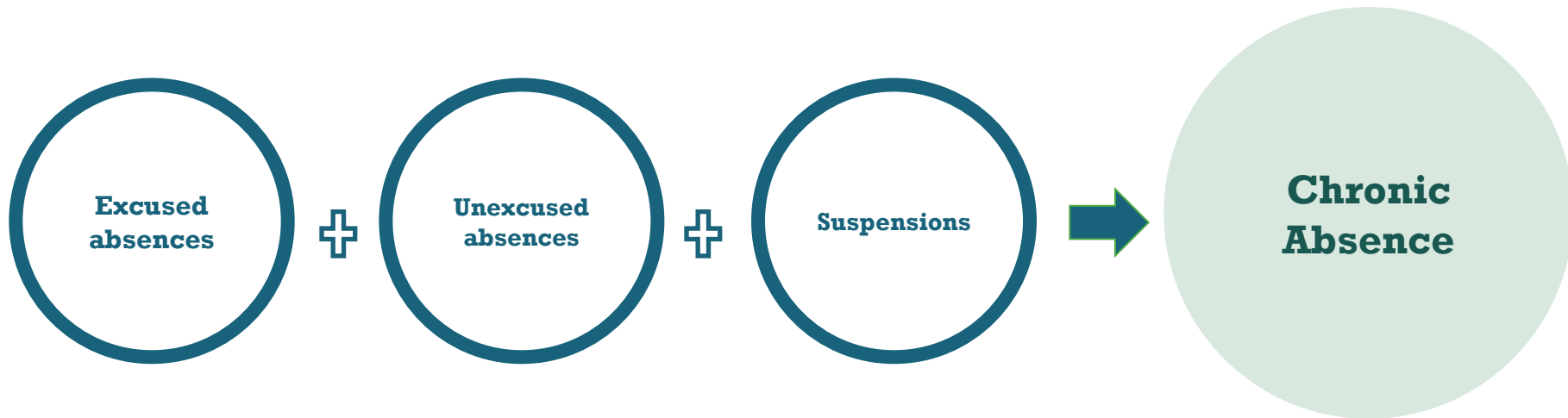
Agenda

- **Overview**
- **2016 Attendance Awareness Month Highlights**
- **Panel Discussion: How to Anticipate and Address Dips in Attendance Through the Year**
- **Questions & Answers**
- **Announcements and Resources**



What is Chronic Absence?

Chronic absence is missing so much school for any reason that a student is academically at risk. Attendance Works recommends defining it as **missing 10% or more of school for any reason.**



Chronic absence is different from **truancy** (unexcused absences only) or **average daily attendance** (how many students show up to school each day).



Multiple Measures of Attendance

Average Daily Attendance

How many students show up to school every day? The percent of enrolled students who attend school each day. It is used in some states for allocating funding.

Truancy

Who is missing school without permission? Typically refers only to unexcused absences. Each state has the authority to define truancy and when it triggers legal intervention.

Chronic Absence

Who is missing so much school they are academically at risk? Broadly means missing too much school for any reason -- excused, unexcused, etc. Researchers commonly define it as missing 10% of school. OCR currently defines it as missing 15 days. Chronic absence is a required reporting metric in ESSA.

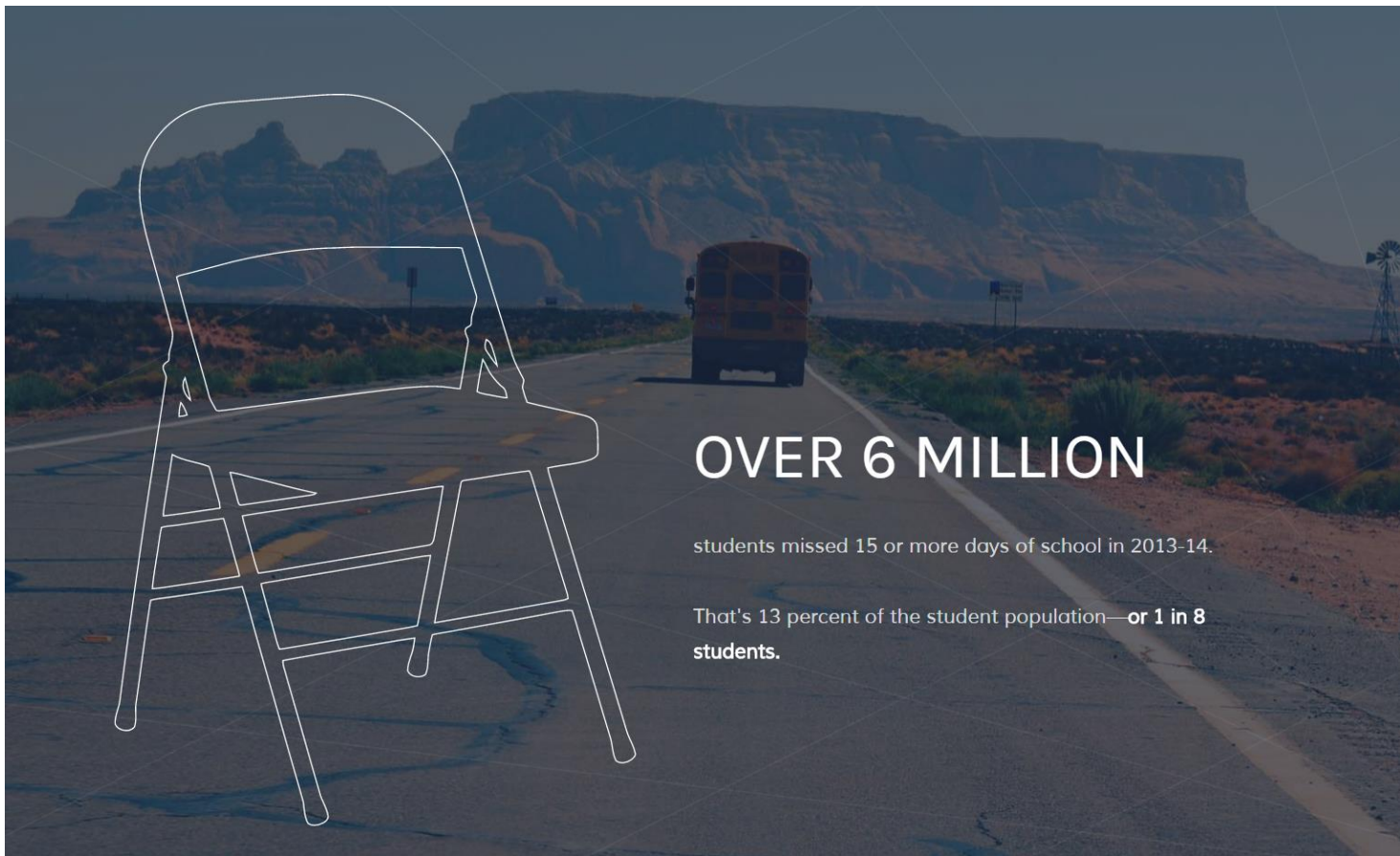


Why does reducing chronic absence matter?

- ✓ **Exposure to language:** Starting in Pre-K, attendance equals exposure to language-rich environments especially for low-income children.
- ✓ **Time on Task in Class:** Students only benefit from classroom instruction if they are in class.
- ✓ **On Track for Success:** Chronic absence is a proven early warning sign that a student is behind in reading by 3rd grade, failing courses in middle and high school, and likely to drop-out.
- ✓ **College and Career Ready:** Cultivating the habit of regular attendance helps students develop the persistence needed to show up every day for college and work.
- ✓ **Engagement:** Attendance reflects engagement in learning.
- ✓ **Effective Practice:** Schools, communities and families can reduce chronic absence when they work together.



First Ever National Chronic Absence Data Released in June 2016

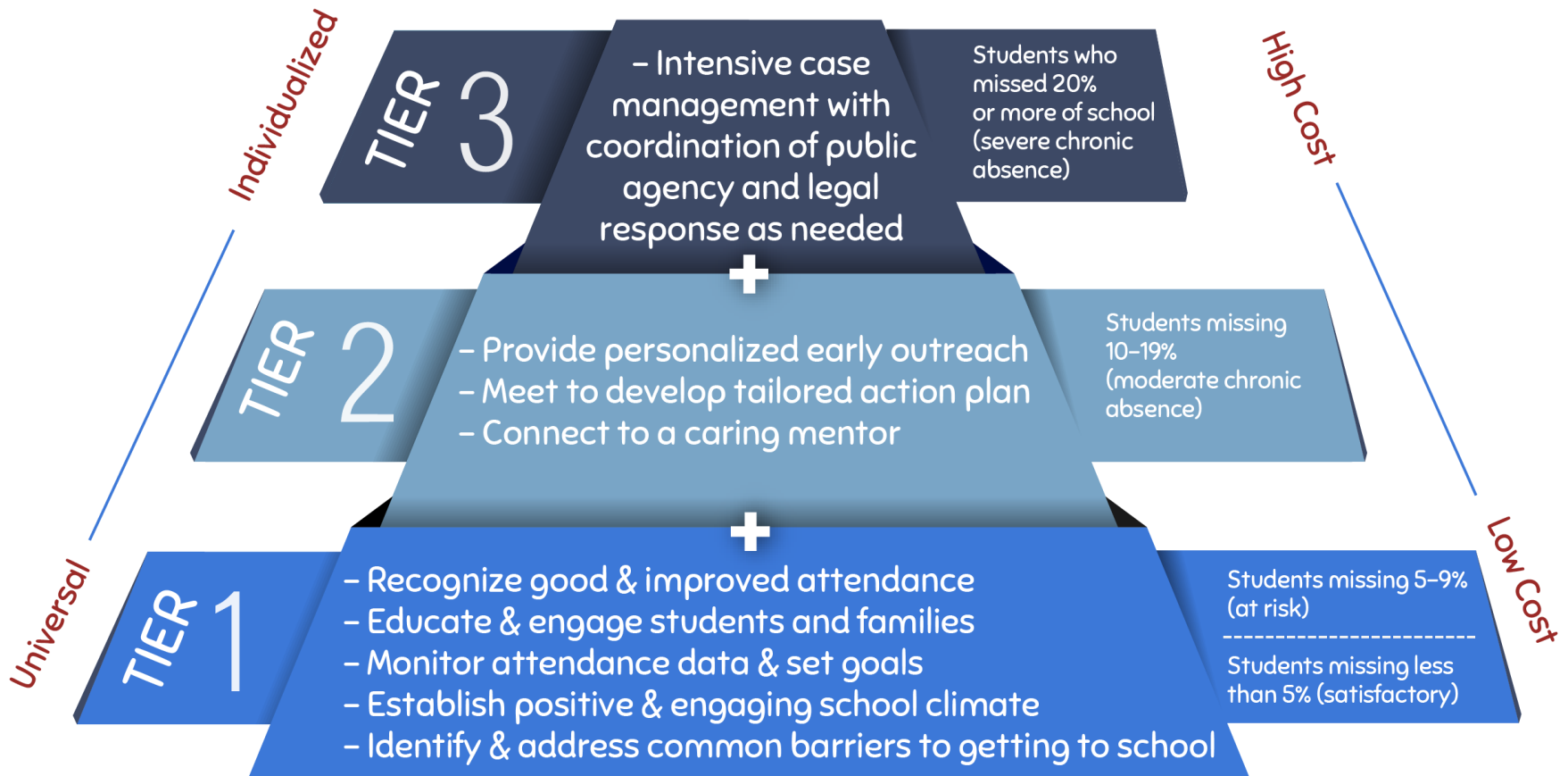


Source: U.S. Department of Education Civil Rights Data Collection



Adopt a multi-tiered support system for students, schools and districts.

Everyone should help make schools warm, welcoming engaging places that motivate students to show up & encourage students and families to monitor when absences are adding up.





Today's Panelists

Kim Nauer, Education Research Director
The New School, Center for New York Affairs

Brent Lynch, Director, Pupil Personnel
Jefferson County Public Schools, Louisville KY

Terry Patton, Principal
Franklin Square Elementary and Middle School, Baltimore, MD

Todd Rogers, Associate Professor of Public Policy
Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University



Panel Discussion



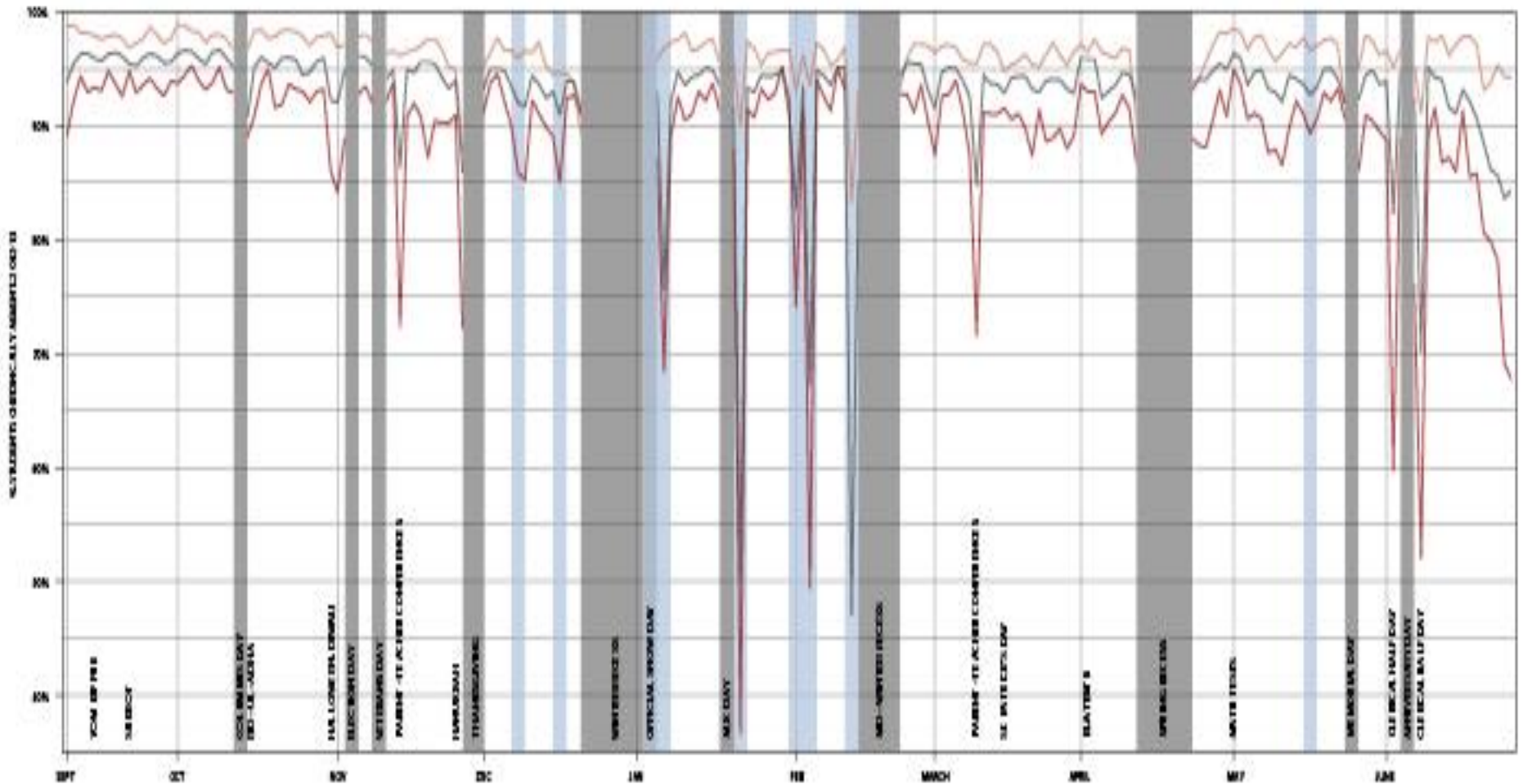
Research and Data Tools

The webpage includes:

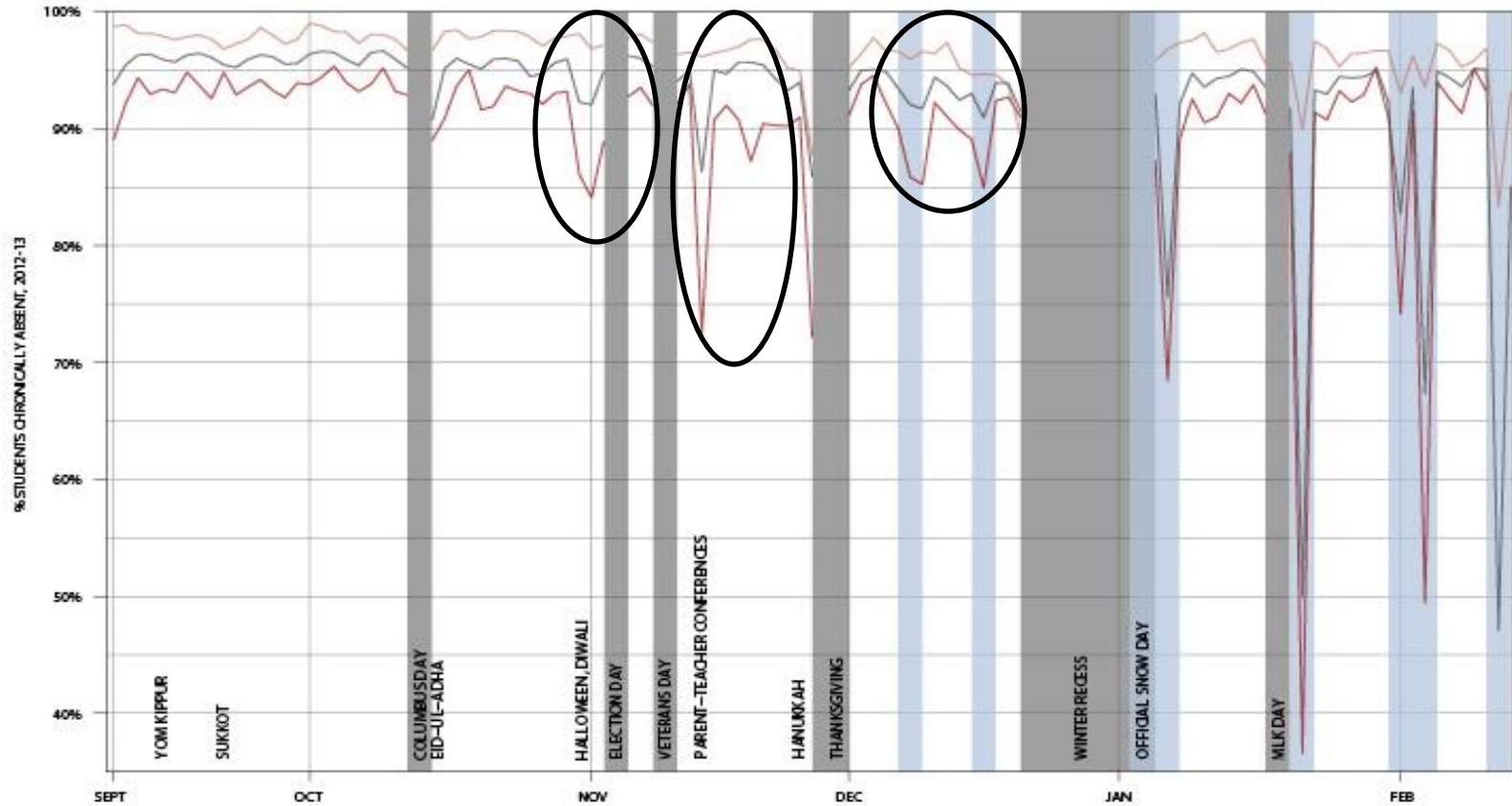
- **Report: *A Better Picture of Poverty: What Chronic Absenteeism and Risk Load Reveal About NYC's Lowest-Income Elementary Schools***
- **An Interactive Attendance Heartbeat Tool**
- **An Interactive Risk Load Tool**
- **And feel free to email Kim Nauer at: nauerk@newschool.edu**

See <http://www.centernyc.org/betterpictureofpoverty>

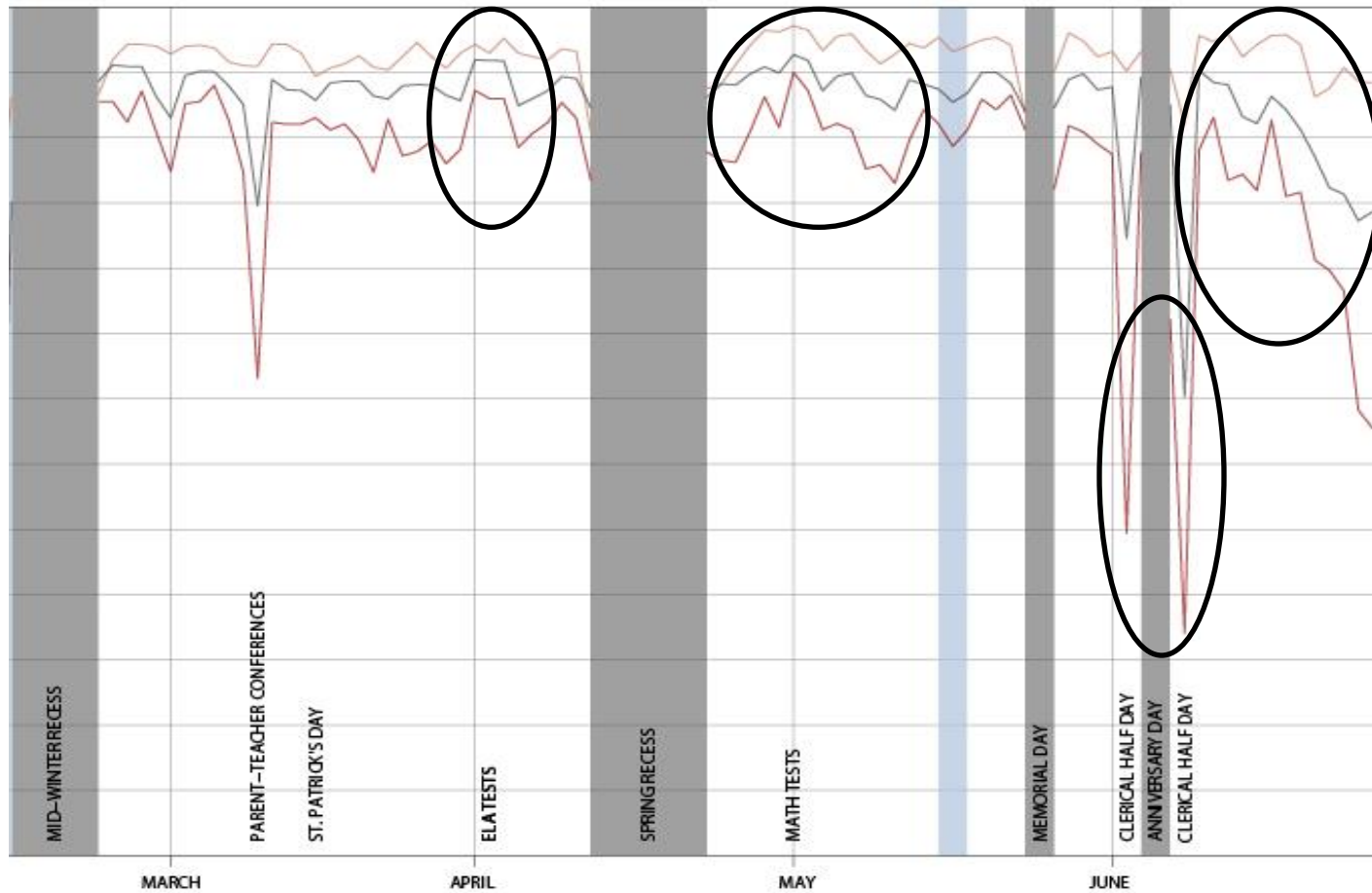
DAY-TO-DAY ATTENDANCE 2013-2014



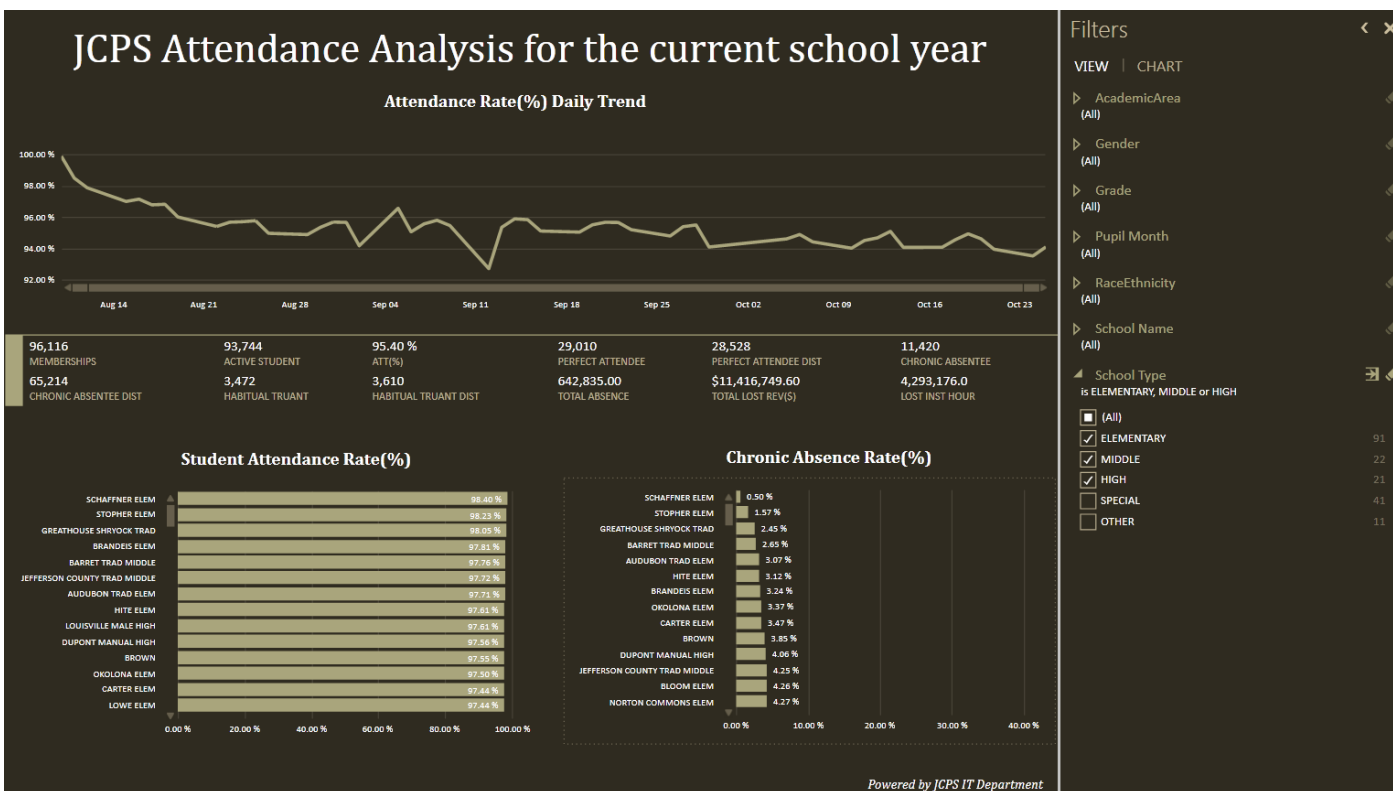
DAY-TO-DAY ATTENDANCE SEPTEMBER-FEBRUARY 13-14



DAY-TO-DAY ATTENDANCE MARCH-JUNE 2014



Attendance Analysis Dashboard



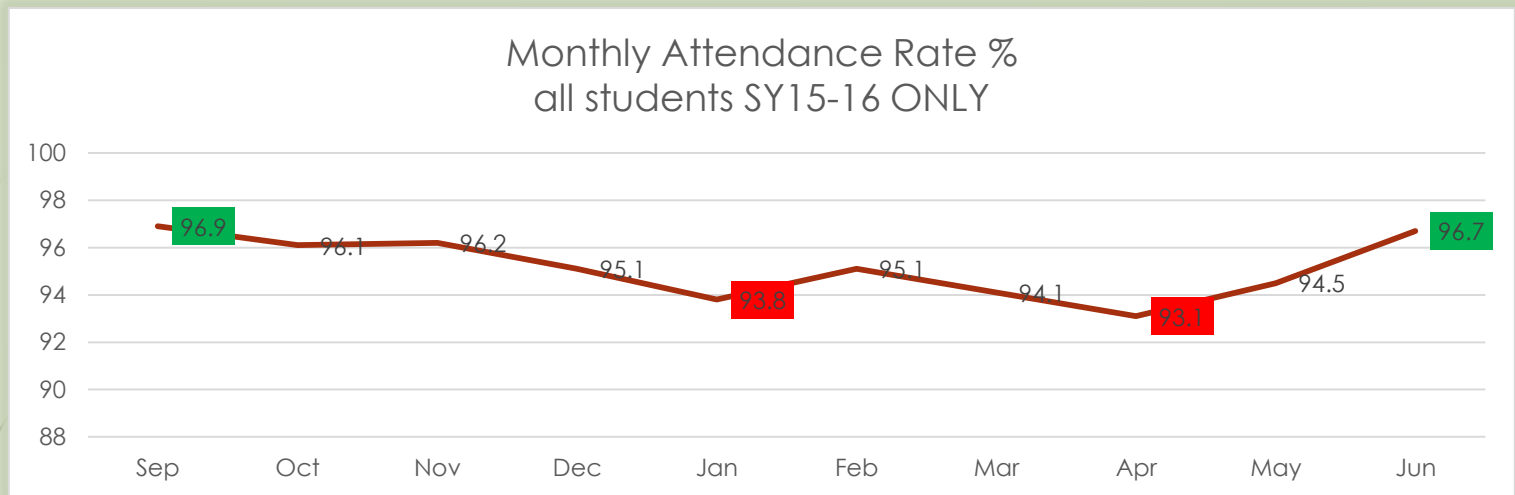
Filters

VIEW | CHART

- AcademicArea (All)
- Gender (All)
- Grade (All)
- Pupil Month (All)
- RaceEthnicity (All)
- School Name (All)
- School Type
 - (All)
 - ☒ ELEMENTARY 91
 - ☒ MIDDLE 22
 - ☒ HIGH 21
 - ☐ SPECIAL 41
 - ☐ OTHER 11

Franklin Square Elementary/Middle School #95

Strategies To Help Curve Dips in School Attendance



As the year begins and ends the rate of attendance is above 96%.

Why?

- New classmates
- New teachers
- New school

Near the end of the school year more activities for students are available.

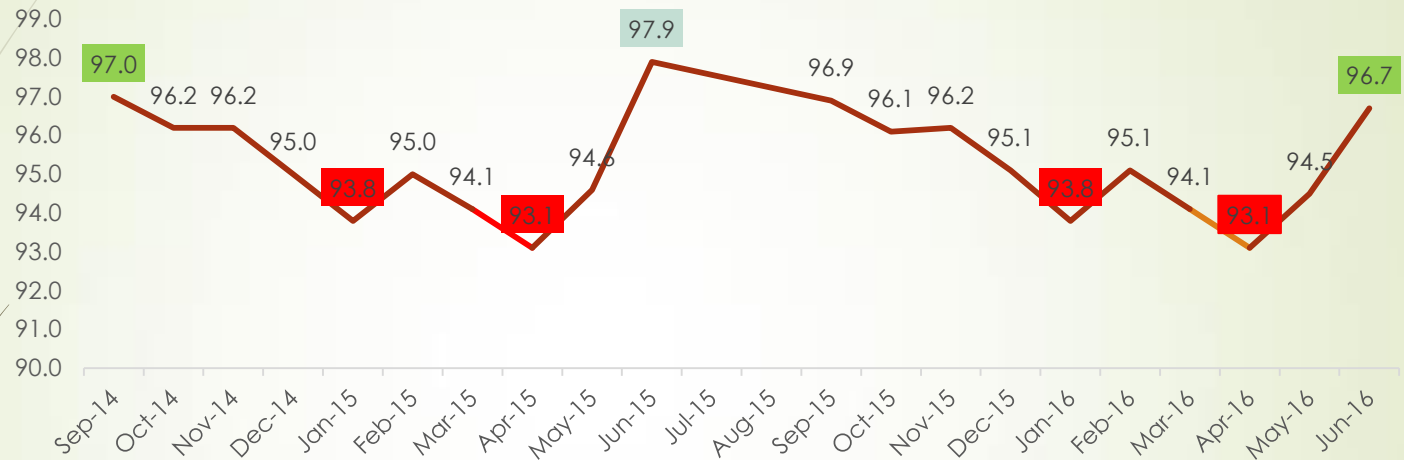
<http://www.franklinsquareschool.org/>



Weekly Incentives for Perfect Attendance

- Lunch bunch for on time arrivals
- Monthly celebrations
- Raffles (bikes and other items)
- Certificates (for scholars and family members)
- Consistent Conversations
- Intercom announcements of daily percentages
- Classroom door banners to celebrate perfect attendance

Franklin Square Elem/Middle School #95 Strategies To Help Curve Dips in School Attendance



January has often been a time of inclement weather (snow and ice) during the past two years.

Late openings and early release days in January also impacted students' attendance because parents sometimes opted not to send their scholars to school on those days.

Student attendance has often been negatively impacted in April due to the change of seasons. Spring weather often causes health problems for our students with asthma and allergies.

<http://www.franklinsquareschool.org/>

- Dips occur at my school during the winter months and we are always adding new strategies.

Strategies to anticipate the dips

- Think abouts:
- Before school year begins
- Get immunization schedule and locations from Health Department
- Have CHIP Forms ready to send home and give to families (asthma and colds)



<http://www.franklinsquareschool.org/>



Strategies to lower dips in attendance

- Focus Groups
- Standard of Care Mentorships (check in checkout)
- Provide new uniforms
- Provide clean clothes
- Beauty Products
- Personal items (hygiene)
- Food Bank
- Fruit / Veggie pickup... at a very low cost (food desert)
- Breakfast in classroom (morning meeting)
- Free fruit in classroom several times per week
- washer dryer
- after-school program
- Barbershop
- Clothes Bank
- Saturday Program

<http://www.franklinsquareschool.org/>



Poll Question

For your school or district, what month has the highest number of absences?



Questions from the Audience



Todd Rogers

Harvard Kennedy School
and In Class Today



Elementary

January 20, 2016

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian:

Good attendance is required for academic excellence. California Education Code section 48260 provides that a pupil (child) subject to compulsory full-time education or to compulsory continuation education who is absent from school without a valid excuse three full days in one school year or tardy or absent for more than a 30-minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year, or any combination thereof, shall be classified as a truant and shall be reported to the attendance supervisor or to the superintendent of the school district.

School records indicate that the pupil named above was absent from school without a valid excuse on 4 occasions, beginning with the following dates:

11/4/2015, 11/5/2015, 11/10/2015

**For a complete report of your pupil's absences, contact the school.*

Our goal is to partner with families to ensure that students attend school every day. While the following consequences may appear harsh, based upon your pupil's initial classification as a truant, we are mandated by Education Code section 48260.5 to inform you that:

- The parent or legal guardian is obligated to compel the attendance of the pupil at school.
- Parents or legal guardians who fail to meet these obligations may be guilty of an infraction and subject to prosecution pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 48290) of Chapter 2 or Part 27 of the Education Code.
- Alternative education programs are available in the district.
- The parent or legal guardian has the right to meet with appropriate school personnel to discuss solutions to the pupil's truancy.
- The pupil may be subject to prosecution under Education Code section 48264.
- The pupil may be subject to suspension, restriction, or delay of the pupil's driving privilege pursuant to Section 13202.7 of the Vehicle Code.
- It is recommended that the parent or legal guardian accompany the pupil to school and attend classes with the pupil for one day.

This report is being issued under Education Code section 48264.5(a). As the parent/legal guardian you may be requested to attend a meeting with a school counselor or other school designee to discuss the root causes of the attendance issue and to develop a joint plan to improve the pupil's attendance.

Please recognize that we are required to monitor attendance and notify parents/legal guardians of potential problems with student attendance. If you have concerns about your pupil's attendance or if you believe there is an error in this report, contact the school at [REDACTED]. The designated attendance personnel will work with you to resolve this issue. We look forward to assisting you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Principal



Robocalls:

- Very few *listen*

Notices of Truancy:

- 12th grade + reading level
- Lots of words
- Oppositional, threatening

Elementary

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Principal

1st Initial Notification of Truancy Report - English

March Update

ABSENCES MATTER AND YOU CAN HELP

Dear Parent/Guardian of Todd Rogers,

Todd has been absent 23 days this school year.

Excused and unexcused absences affect Todd's learning.

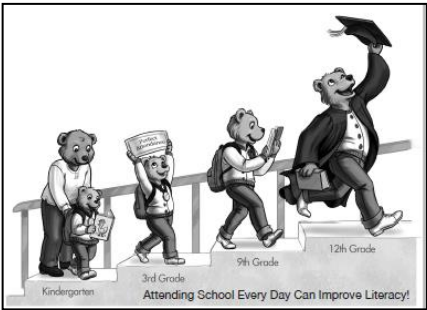
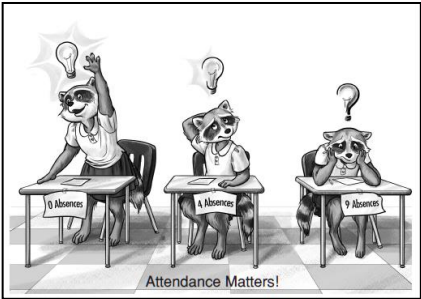
Thank you for continuing to help Todd attend school as much as possible.

Sincerely,

William R. Hite, Jr., Ed.D.

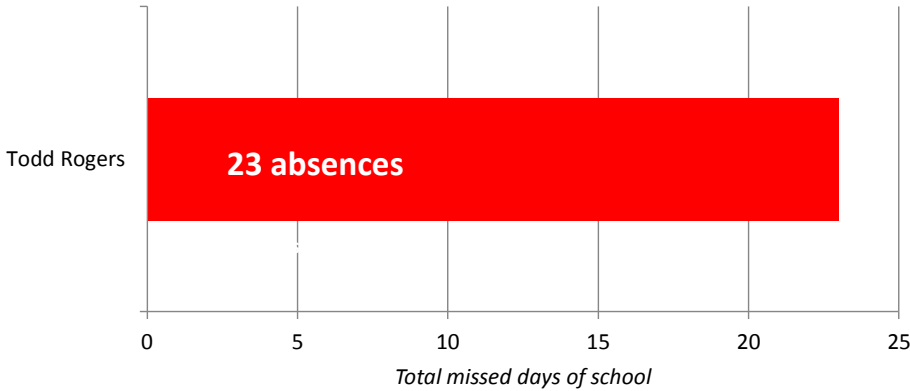
Superintendent

The School District of Philadelphia



March Update

Todd has missed 23 days of school this year**



** This card is part of the XYZ Attendance Project, which aims to increase awareness about the importance of attendance. This is a follow-up to cards we sent earlier in the year. The number of absences listed above includes excused and unexcused absences as of February 1, 2015. If you have questions, or you do not want to receive future cards, please call [PHONE], email [EMAIL], or visit www.XYZattendanceproject.org. Please be sure to provide the following code: [UNIQUE CODE]. If you received this card in error or have already opted out of receiving these cards, please disregard this one. We apologize for the inconvenience.

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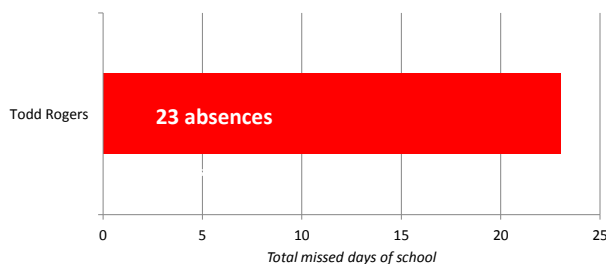
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(Some) **false beliefs** matter; other candidates

Mail is read & remembered

Reduce chronic absenteeism 11%

~\$7/incremental day + learning more

Replicated in 16 districts

Cost effective...complement

Easily implemented at **scale** (admin data, automated)

In Class Today helping districts implement this approach (johannes@inclasstoday.com)



District Reports



Traditional pupil month report only included Attendance % and trend data from month to month.

	pm 01				pm 02				pm 03					Total ATT.DAYS	Total LOST	Total
	ATT(%)	ATT.DAYS MISSED	LOST INST. HOURS	ATT.LOST REV. \$\$\$	ATT(%)	ATT.DAYS MISSED	LOST INST. HOURS	ATT.LOST REV. \$\$\$	ATT(%)	ATT.DAYS MISSED	LOST INST. HOURS	ATT.LOST REV. \$\$\$	Total ATT(%)	MISSED	INST. HOURS	ATT.LOST REV. \$\$\$
ELEMENTARY	97.0 %	23,871.0	159,307.27	\$423,948.96	96.3 %	30,142.5	201,167.24	\$535,330.80	95.6 %	22,008.0	146,869.61	\$390,862.08	96.4 %	76,021.5	507,344.12	\$1,350,141.84
ALEX R KENNEDY	96.3 %	139.0	926.96	\$2,468.64	96.0 %	154.5	1,030.36	\$2,743.92	95.8 %	103.0	686.95	\$1,829.28	96.1 %	396.5	2,644.27	\$7,041.84
00	97.2 %	23.0	153.39	\$408.48	95.7 %	35.5	236.75	\$630.48	97.7 %	11.5	76.70	\$204.24	96.7 %	70.0	466.84	\$1,243.20
2016 - 2017	97.2 %	23.0	153.39	\$408.48	95.7 %	35.5	236.75	\$630.48	97.7 %	11.5	76.70	\$204.24	96.7 %	70.0	466.84	\$1,243.20
01	93.9 %	53.5	356.79	\$950.16	95.8 %	37.5	250.07	\$666.00	93.5 %	35.0	233.43	\$621.60	94.5 %	126.0	840.29	\$2,237.76
2016 - 2017	93.9 %	53.5	356.79	\$950.16	95.8 %	37.5	250.07	\$666.00	93.5 %	35.0	233.43	\$621.60	94.5 %	126.0	840.29	\$2,237.76
02	97.0 %	12.5	83.36	\$222.00	97.0 %	13.5	90.03	\$239.76	95.0 %	15.0	100.04	\$266.40	96.5 %	41.0	273.43	\$728.16
2016 - 2017	97.0 %	12.5	83.36	\$222.00	97.0 %	13.5	90.03	\$239.76	95.0 %	15.0	100.04	\$266.40	96.5 %	41.0	273.43	\$728.16
03	96.8 %	15.5	103.36	\$275.28	96.7 %	16.0	106.71	\$284.16	98.8 %	3.5	23.34	\$62.16	97.2 %	35.0	233.41	\$621.60
2016 - 2017	96.8 %	15.5	103.36	\$275.28	96.7 %	16.0	106.71	\$284.16	98.8 %	3.5	23.34	\$62.16	97.2 %	35.0	233.41	\$621.60
04	97.6 %	19.5	130.04	\$346.32	96.9 %	25.5	170.07	\$452.88	95.7 %	21.5	143.39	\$381.84	96.8 %	66.5	443.50	\$1,181.04
2016 - 2017	97.6 %	19.5	130.04	\$346.32	96.9 %	25.5	170.07	\$452.88	95.7 %	21.5	143.39	\$381.84	96.8 %	66.5	443.50	\$1,181.04
05	96.2 %	15.0	100.02	\$266.40	93.7 %	26.5	176.73	\$470.64	94.2 %	16.5	110.05	\$293.04	94.7 %	58.0	386.80	\$1,030.08
2016 - 2017	96.2 %	15.0	100.02	\$266.40	93.7 %	26.5	176.73	\$470.64	94.2 %	16.5	110.05	\$293.04	94.7 %	58.0	386.80	\$1,030.08

New attendance analysis reports for schools include categories for truants, perfect attendance, and chronically absent students.

	MONTHLY ATT DIFF	TREND	ACTIVE STUDENT	PERFECT ATTENDEE	PERFECT ATTENDEE DIST	CHRONIC ABSENTEE	CHRONIC ABSENTEE DIST	HABITUAL TRUANT	HABITUAL TRUANT DIST
ACKERLY	0.00 %	0	15	15	7		8		1
AHRENS EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE	0.27 %	1	39	11	11	9	28	7	7
ALEX R KENNEDY	-0.12 %	-1	222	73	72	24	150	1	1
ATHERTON HIGH	-0.30 %	-1	1,463	451	447	200	1,016	39	40
ATKINSON ACAD	-0.32 %	-1	411	115	110	66	301	14	14
AUBURNDALE ELEM	-0.18 %	-1	574	189	188	61	386	5	5
AUDUBON TRAD ELEM	-0.08 %	-1	619	294	294	25	325		
AUDUBON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER	0.00 %	0	12	12	11		1		

<https://www.jefferson.kyschools.us/>



Student Detail Reports



New district level reports available to local schools that provide detailed lists for truants, perfect attendance students and chronically absent students.

JCPS Chronic Absentees Detail

Total Students: 23

Total Students(ALEX R KENNEDY): 23

Pupil Month: 2

Student No	Student Name	Grade	Enrolled Period	Abs in Curr. LOC	Memb in Curr. LOC	Total Abs	Total Memb.
		01	2016-08-10 ~	7.0	36.0	7.0	36.0
		00	2016-08-10 ~	7.0	36.0	7.0	36.0
		05	2016-08-10 ~	6.0	36.0	6.0	36.0
		03	2016-08-10 ~	6.0	36.0	6.0	36.0

<https://www.jefferson.kyschools.us/>

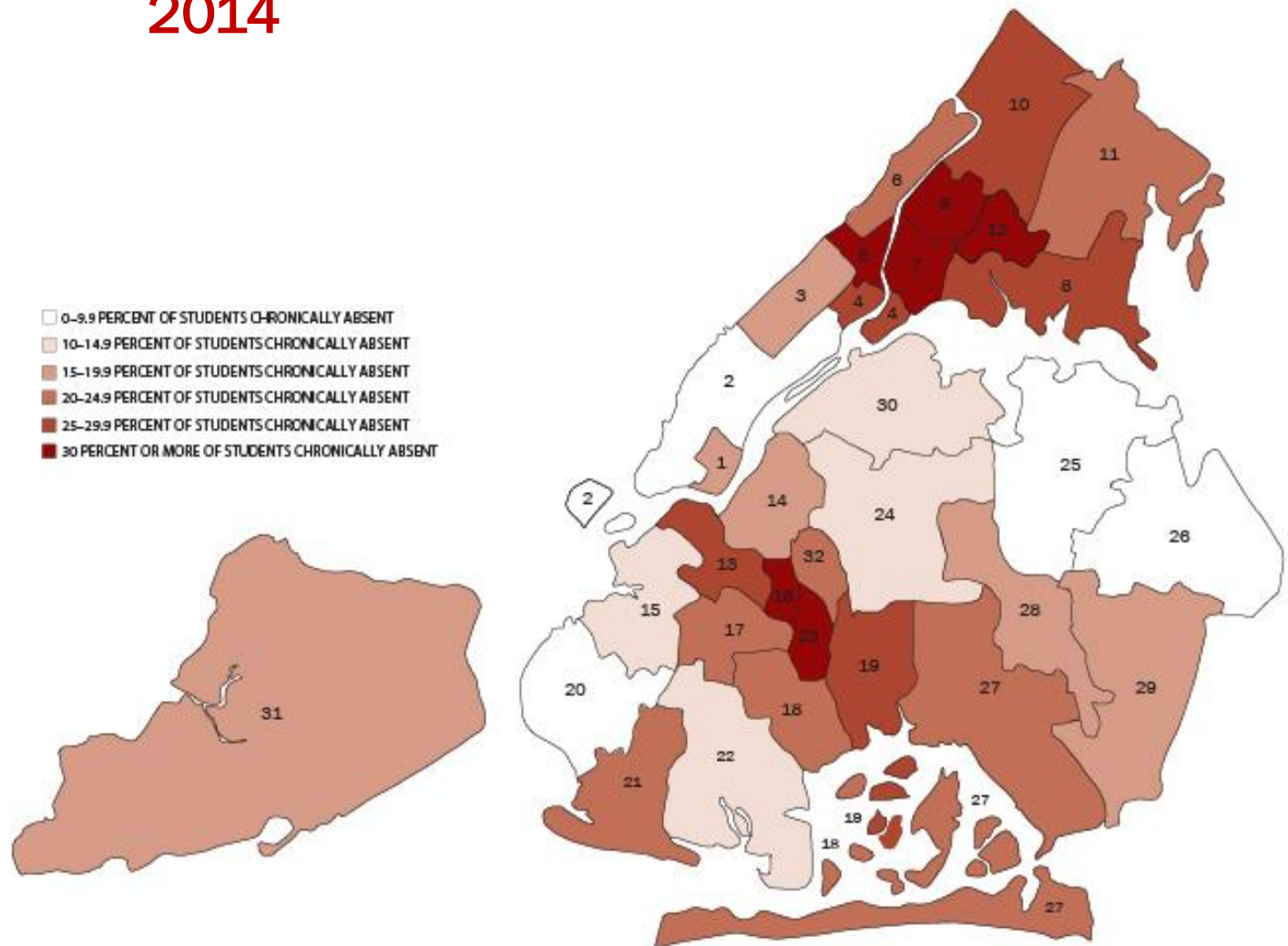
Franklin Square Elementary/Middle School #95

Addressing the needs of chronically absent students



<http://www.franklinsquareschool.org/>

LEVELS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM BY DISTRICT 2014





Questions from the Audience



Resources & Announcements

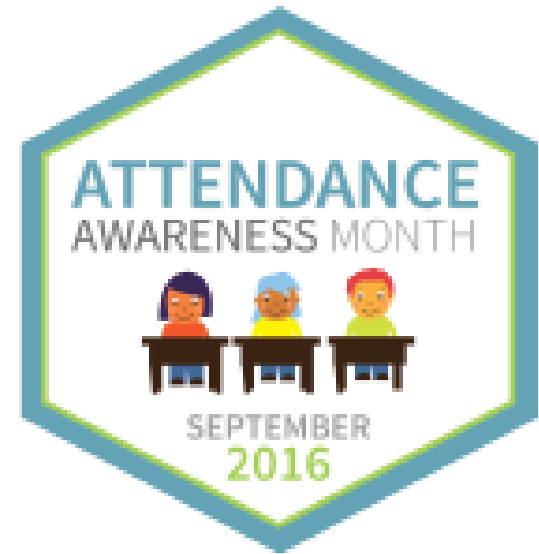




Feedback on 2016

Fill out the feedback form and get the chance to win a customized badge for 2017!

Watch for your opportunity in the next newsletter.





Support AAC 2017



<http://www.attendanceworks.org/donate-to-attendance-works/>



Attendance Works Toolkits



<http://www.attendanceworks.org/tools/for-public-messaging/holiday-messaging/>



Attendance Works Toolkits



<http://www.attendanceworks.org/tools/for-public-messaging/winter-messaging/>



Save the Date!

Every Student Every Day:

*A Virtual Summit on Chronic Absence as a Measure of
School Quality or Student Success*

December 7, 2016

10 PT / 1 ET



Webinar recording

We will post a recording of this webinar on our website within 72 hours at:

<http://www.attendanceworks.org/peer-learning-resources/>



Feedback

Please let us know how we can improve:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Inspiring-Progress>

Thank you to our funders!

With special appreciation to:

**Annie E. Casey Foundation
W. K. Kellogg Foundation
The California Endowment**

